G-2/IE/52772
Col /f/mhh

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G-2-IE-350.09 (26 Oct 46)

9 AUG 1950

Colonel David D. Barrett
Army Attache
American Embassy
Taipei, Taiwan

Dear Colonel Barrett:

The involvement of United States Forces in Korea and the stationing of the Seventh Fleet in waters adjacent to Taiwan turn the spotlight even more directly on your area. The implications inherent in possible Communist moves against Taiwan, and the political aspects of any future assistance which might be given by the United States, increases the interest in all of your reports. The personal evaluations and comments thereto are of additional value in maintaining a proper balance on conditions viewed from here.

Intense interest prevails concerning the much-reported troop movements which continue in Communist China. Since troops of the Third and Fourth Field Armies will probably play a major role in any future Communist operation, your reporting on these units is of inestimable value. Your efforts to confirm the many reports of movements north from Canton are appreciated. At a time of intense activity in any area the unevaluated and unconfirmed reports produce some weird pictures. Future reports on this subject from Taipei will be most welcome.

While the present estimate of Communist intentions towards Taiwan remains unchanged, recent developments may well create a change in the estimates of Nationalist capabilities, on which better morale and hope for still further aid will undoubtedly have a direct bearing.

The attempt by the Nationalist Government to regain a position as a full partner in the fight against Communism is one of the interesting ramifications of the recent events. The full effect of final United States decisions in regard to the offer of troops to fight in Korea must await further actions. Your continuing close

MAILED I.D., GSUSA AUG 9 1950

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Colonel David D. Barrett

9 AUG 1950

study and reporting of the Chinese reactions to the new developments will be a great aid in future evaluation of conditions on Taiwan.

Sincerely,

S. LeROY IRWIN
Major General, GSC
A.C. of S., G-2

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:
COORDINATION:

Tech Br - negative
Plans Sec - negative
Cur Int Sec - negative
Survey Sec - negative
Coll and Diss Br - negative
World Wide Br - negative

(1151) G-2 350.09-T